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WE ASKED

We asked UT students and alumni if they support providing a path to citizenship for the more than 11 million undocumented immigrants already in this country. **PAGE 4**

TODAY

Visual Arts Center season opening

Join the Visual Arts Center at the opening reception from 6-8:30 p.m. for the first five exhibitions of the spring 2013 season at the Visual Arts Center.

Author of 'American Heathens' lectures

Guest speaker Joshua Paddison presents a lecture titled "Chinese Immigrants, Native Americans, and the Religio-Racial Politics of Reconstruction" at the Student Activity Center from 12:30-1:30 p.m.

TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1945

U.S. President Harry S. Truman publicly announces his decision to support the development of the hydrogen bomb, a weapon theorized to be hundreds of times more powerful than the atomic bombs dropped on Japan during World War II.



Cameron Ridley's weight loss has been Texas' gain.
SPORTS
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Freedmen's restaurant brings upscale dining to West Campus.
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83RD LEGISLATURE

Straus appoints education committee

By Joshua Fechter

A mix of old and new faces will fill the House Higher Education Committee, which was announced Thursday.

Texas House Speaker Joe Straus renamed state Rep. Dan Branch, R-Dallas, chairman of the committee. State Rep. Diane

Patrick, R-Arlington, will succeed former state Rep. Joaquin Castro, D-San Antonio, as vice chair. Castro was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in November.

In addition to Branch and Patrick, returning members include state Reps. Roberto Alonzo, D-Dallas; Donna Howard, D-Austin; and John Raney, R-College

Station. New members are state Reps. Drew Darby, R-San Angelo; Armando Martinez, D-Weslaco; Jim Murphy, R-Houston; and freshman Travis Clardy, R-Nacogdoches.

In a statement following the committee announcement, Howard said she looks forward to working with Branch as the committee addresses the state's

higher education needs.

"Our state's position as an economic leader depends on a well-educated workforce," Howard said. "We must ensure that our diverse population is prepared to meet tomorrow's challenges."

The new committee includes six Republicans



State Rep. Dan Branch
Chair, Higher Education Committee

BRANCH *continues on page 2*

CITY



Illustration by Julio Avila | Daily Texan Staff

Drawing new lines

Austin committee seeks members to create new districts for election

By Hannah Jane DeCiutiis

While Austin officials are taking applications from citizens to draw lines for the city's single-member districts, UT students have an unparalleled opportunity

to represent themselves in Austin's shift to geographic representation.

The Citizens Redistricting Commission will be drawing new district lines for Austin's 2014 elections. In accordance with the Proposition 3 Amendment passed

in November, one council member will represent each of these 10 districts to ensure accurate representation for each resident, said Linda Curtis, coordinator for Austinites for Geographic Representation. The group is responsible for getting the 10-1 plan passed through the City Council.

One commissioner position will belong to a stu-

dent currently enrolled at any college in Austin. Requirements for regular commissioner positions, including having voted in three of Austin's last five general elections, will be waived for the student commissioner position.

Curtis said the existence of the student commissioner

10-1 *continues on page 2*

UNIVERSITY

Student media group faces budget concerns

By Jordan Rudner

Texas Student Media and its entities, including The Daily Texan, are facing potential budget shortfalls after the first few months of the fiscal year.

The Texas Student Media Board will meet Friday for the first time since November to discuss an array of agenda items including a review of December's financial report. The board oversees the operation of The Daily Texan, Cactus Yearbook, KVRX Radio, TSTV and the Texas Travesty.

Like many other print publications facing declining

advertising revenue, The Texan's advertising dropped by almost half in December 2012 compared with December 2011, according to budget documents submitted to the board.

The total advertising income for TSM in December 2012 totaled \$28,700. One year ago, in December 2011, advertising revenue was reported as \$52,773.

The amount of revenue gathered so far for this fiscal year is also less than anticipated. The 2012-2013 TSM Budget plans for \$1,501,000 generated by advertising revenue. A third of the way

TSM *continues on page 2*

CAMPUS



Sociology junior Jonathan Cortez speaks with sociology senior Apolinar Perez, who won first place, about Perez's poster at the Center for Mexican American Studies Poster Art Reception on Thursday afternoon.

Shelby Tauber
Daily Texan Staff

Contest focuses on bilingualism

By Amanda O'Donnell

A UT senior walked away with first prize and a \$1,000 scholarship Thursday after winning the fourth annual

Center for Mexican American Studies Student Poster Art Competition.

Sociology senior Apolinar Perez's poster was one of 13 student submissions reviewed by the Center's

Poster Art Scholarship Committee following the theme of "Language in las Americas." Students were asked to focus on language in

POSTER *continues on page 5*

DT

THE DAILY TEXAN

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TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High **74** Low **47**
NASCAR

FRAMES | FEATURED PHOTO



Chelsea Purgahn | Daily Texan Staff

Simon Kiddell repairs a bicycle at The Peddler Bike Shop on Thursday afternoon.

10-1 *continues from page 1*

position was heavily advocated by UT's student government while the 10-1 plan was being written.

"UT Student Government was very active in the phase of determining what the measure was going to look like, and they advocated that we have a student seat on the 14-person commission," Price said. "The student population in Austin is so big that we got convinced that it was important. I'm hoping that somebody will pick up the mantle from UT."

Curtis said the coalition began meeting in

February 2011 to discuss a process for creating single-member districts.

"We started talking about if we could come together to agree on a system for single-member districts, because single-member districts has been widely supported for years and years," Curtis said. "By about October we agreed to do a 10-1 system."

The Citizens Redistricting Commission will consist of 14 Austin residents, who will be responsible for drawing new district lines for the city. The Applicant Review Panel, an additional three-person entity in the

redistricting process, will select the commissioners by narrowing down all applications to a pool of 60 qualified applicants, from which the city auditor will draw eight random names. These eight selected commissioners will appoint the final six commissioners. Applications for both the Applicant Review Panel and the Citizens Redistricting Commission opened Jan. 18 and will close Feb. 22.

City Auditor Kenneth Mory said the commission will be working to ensure accurate representation of Austin's diverse population.

"The idea is making sure there is a diverse group of commissioners," Mory said. "One of the things that we're focusing on [are] unrepresented groups, for example Hispanics, African-Americans and Asian-Americans."

Mory said the city auditor's office has attempted to reach out to UT student organizations, but is unsure if any students have applied.

"I don't know if we have received any applications as of yet from students," Mory said. "We're hoping that we do. The students who meet the other qualifications can also apply to be just a

regular commissioner."

John Lawler, urban studies senior and advocate of Proposition 3, said it is critical for UT's current Student Government to take responsibility for getting students engaged and interested in applying for the position.

"It's important for us to get a lot of students to apply for the position," Lawler said. "If we don't have anyone applying, and we don't have our Student Government taking that bold stance, then I think we're sending the wrong message to local leaders."

TSM *continues from page 1*

into the fiscal year, 27.2 percent of that revenue has been earned.

As media institutions struggle to bring in advertising revenue across the country, each TSM publication has adopted budget-reducing techniques. Hunter Ellenbarger, Cactus editor-in-chief,

said in a January letter to the TSM board Cactus will no longer pay its writers and photographers beginning next year. The Texas Travesty will print one fewer issue in the spring semester and forgo its summer edition.

Dave Player, at-large member of the board, said the equilibrium point has not yet been reached in terms of a sustainable revenue level.

"We're moving online, establishing a mobile platform, but it's not translating into a major source of revenue, and at the same time we're losing revenue from traditional sources," Player said. "It's creating a gap, and we can't sustain that gap."

Player said though web traffic might eventually turn a higher profit, it does not yet.

Paepin Mayol, vice president of the board's Executive

Committee, said the board's job is to track the budgets of its five publications.

"Our job is to look at budget figures to determine what we can shift around, how we can restructure our media outlets and how we can generally improve things," Mayol said. "Those are all of prime concern to us."

However, Mayor said she had not reviewed the most recent financial statements.

"I have not seen financial reports for anything past November," Mayol said. "I know that the last time we had a meeting about financials, we were in the black."

Julia Newtown and Ray Ortiz, two other members of the board, declined to comment. The remaining four members could not be reached for comment before press time.

BRANCH *continues from page 1*

and three Democrats, differing from the makeup of the previous membership, which included five Republicans and four Democrats.

Sherri Greenberg, former member of the Texas House of Representatives and director of the Center for Politics and Governance at the LBJ School of Public Affairs, said she does not think this slight shift in partisan alignment will significantly affect the committee's decision-making process.

"At this point, I don't think it will be a big difference," Greenberg said. "I think we will see a very reasoned debate."

Some committee members have filed bills that

would freeze tuition for undergraduates, tie more university formula funding to student success and establish a law school in the Rio Grande Valley.

Branch filed a bill that would require universities to offer students the option of paying fixed-rate tuition if they graduate within the time allotted by their degree plan. Branch also authored a bill that would tie 25 percent of university formula funding to student outcomes such as graduation rates. Gov. Rick Perry expressed support for both initiatives during his State of the State address Tuesday.

Martinez filed a bill that would allow the board of regents of a university system to establish a law school in Cameron or Hidalgo counties near the Texas-Mexico border.

THE DAILY TEXAN

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2/1/13

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NEWS BRIEFLY

Iran announces plans to increase uranium

VIENNA — In a defiant move ahead of nuclear talks, Iran has announced plans to vastly increase its pace of uranium enrichment, which can make both reactor fuel and the fissile core of warheads. Eager to avoid scuttling those negotiations, world powers are keeping their response low-key.

Iran told the International Atomic Energy Agency of its intentions last week, and the IAEA informed member nations in an internal note seen by The Associated Press on Thursday.

It gave no timeframe. A senior diplomat familiar with the issue said work had not started.

NY Times: computers hacked by Chinese

BEIJING — Chinese hackers repeatedly penetrated The New York Times' computer systems over the past four months, hunting for files on an investigation into the wealth amassed by the family of a top Chinese leader, the newspaper reported Thursday.

The attacks, which began in mid-September, coincided with a Times investigation into how the relatives and family of Premier Wen Jiabao built a fortune worth over \$2 billion. The report, posted online Oct. 25, embarrassed the Communist Party leadership, exposing deep-seated favoritism in a country with a large wealth gap.

—Compiled from Associated Press reports

Israel may launch new strike on Syria

Josef Derman & Zeina Karam
Associated Press

BEIRUT — An Israeli air attack staged in Syria this week may be a sign of things to come.

Israeli military officials appear to have concluded that the risks of attacking Syria are worth taking when compared to the dangers of allowing sophisticated weapons to reach Hezbollah guerrillas in neighboring Lebanon.

With Syrian President Bashar Assad's grip on power weakening, Israeli officials fear he could soon lose control over his substantial arsenal of chemical and advanced weapons, which could slip into the hands of Hezbollah or other hostile groups. These concerns, combined with Hezbollah's own domestic problems, mean further military action could be likely.

Tzachi Hanegbi, an incoming lawmaker in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud Party and a former chairman of parliament's influential foreign affairs and defense committee, signaled Thursday that Israel could be compelled to act on its own. While Israel's preference is for Western powers to gain control over Syria's arms stockpile, he said there are no signs of that happening.

"Israel finds itself, like it has many times in the past, facing a dilemma that only it knows how to respond to. And it could well be that we will reach a stage where we will have to make decisions," Hanegbi told Israel's Army Radio Thursday.



In this Nov. 17, 2012 photo, an Israeli Iron Dome missile is launched near the city of Be'er Sheva, southern Israel, to intercept a rocket fired from Gaza. An Israeli air attack reportedly staged in Syria this week may be a sign of things to come.

Ahikam Seri | Associated Press

Hanegbi, like other Israeli officials, would not confirm Israeli involvement in the airstrike.

In Wednesday's incident, Israeli warplanes conducted a rare airstrike inside Syria, according to U.S. officials who said the target was a convoy believed to be carrying anti-aircraft weapons bound for Hezbollah, the powerful Lebanese militant group allied with Syria and Iran.

The Syrian military has denied the existence of any weapons shipment and said a military research facility outside

Damascus was hit.

On Thursday, Syria threatened to retaliate, while Hezbollah condemned the attack as "barbaric aggression." Iran, which supplies arms to Syria, Hezbollah and the Hamas militant group in Gaza, said the airstrike would have significant implications for Israel.

Syrian ally Russia said it appeared to be an unprovoked attack on a sovereign nation.

Syria's ambassador to Lebanon, Ali Abdul-Karim Ali, said Damascus "has the option and the capacity to surprise

in retaliation." He told Hezbollah's al-Ahd news website that it was up to the relevant authorities to choose the time and place.

For now, Israeli officials seem to be playing down the threats.

"Israel took a big gamble out of the belief that Iran and Hezbollah won't retaliate. The question is, 'Are they right or not?'" said Moshe Maoz, a professor emeritus at Hebrew University who specializes in Syria.

Officials believe that Assad's

position in Syria is so precarious that he cannot risk opening a new front with Israel.

"Syria is in such a bad state right now that an Israeli retaliation to a Syrian action would be harsh and could topple the regime. Therefore Syria is not responding," Maoz said.

Israel is far more worried about the threat of sophisticated weapons reaching Hezbollah. In a monthlong 2006 war, Hezbollah fired some 4,000 rockets and missiles into Israel before the conflict ended in a stalemate.

Left, right criticize Scouts' policy

David Crary
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Boy Scouts of America faces intensifying criticism from the left and right over a proposal to move away from a mandatory no-gays membership policy and allow troop sponsors to decide the matter for themselves.

The Human Rights Campaign, a major gay-rights group that initially welcomed the BSA's possible shift, said Thursday that it was inadequate and demanded that the Scouts adopt a nationwide policy to accept gays as scouts and adult leaders.

The HRC said corporations that continued to donate funds to the Scouts if any troops were allowed to discriminate would lose points in an annual evaluation of how major employers deal with gay-related

workplace issues.

Meanwhile, conservative groups which support the long-standing no-gays policy asked their followers to flood BSA headquarters with phone calls opposing any change.

Tony Perkins, president of the conservative Family Research Council, urged callers to persist even if they couldn't get through at first.

"The BSA national leadership were not prepared for the thousands of Americans who were shocked to hear that an organization that could always be counted on for standing for what's right was about to cave in to homosexual activists and corporations," Perkins said in an emailed appeal.

"It is so important that you keep the pressure on, to show them how devastating this moral collapse will be for the Scouts and the country," he said.

Similar appeals were made

by other conservative groups across the country.

The Boy Scouts, who emphatically reaffirmed the no-gays policy just seven months ago, announced on Monday that they were considering a major change. Instead of mandatory exclusion of gays, the different religious and civic groups that sponsor Scout units would be able to decide for themselves how to address the issue — either maintaining the exclusion or opening up their membership.

The proposal is expected to be discussed, and possibly voted on, at a meeting of the Scouts' national executive board next week in Texas.

Deron Smith, the Scouts' national spokesman, declined comment on the Human Rights Campaign's announcement and also denied reports that the Scouts were taking a poll to gauge public sentiment on the controversy.



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WE ASKED: PATHWAY TO CITIZENSHIP?

THE QUESTION: *Do you support providing a path to citizenship for the more than 11 million undocumented immigrants already in this country? For more responses, please visit bit.ly/dt_pathway*

Alfredo Vasquez
Bilingual education junior from Brownsville
Yeah, I do. Their work is really important here. Not everybody values it, but yeah, I think they help out the economy a lot. A lot of them are exploited. So yeah, I mean, I totally support that.

Adriana Chavez
Economics freshman from Laredo
I would have to say that I don't support that just because, where I grew up, most people living in there were immigrated and they did not have citizenship, and I feel like most of them get a lot of welfare and child support from funds that shouldn't be going towards them because they're not here legally. So giving them the right to be legal in the United States, I feel, would just be like another setback to us. Plus, we have very bad economic issues right now.

Trisha Talamantez
Business senior from San Antonio
I think I would support it if it required what it is for a person to become a citizen. I think, definitely, if they meet the standards that are set out for them, then I think it'd be fine.

Merrill Eng
UT class of '08, Bachelor of Architecture, from Austin
Yeah, for sure. I feel like people would be helped if they had all the rights of citizenship, and we would be helping ourselves to retain the best and brightest aspiring workers from whatever nationality. I think it's in America's best interest.

Vincent Steil
Electrical engineering junior from Berlin, Germany
In short, yes. Mainly because you're not going to find and get rid of the undocumented immigrants. And if you want to prevent basically creating a permanent underclass of people living in your country, probably in very bad conditions, you have to find some way of legitimizing the whole thing. Also, I'm pretty sure that every undocumented immigrant is not paying taxes for whatever work he's doing, so you're losing out on a large swath of revenue that you could get rather easily because, most often, people who are undocumented immigrants are doing work that Americans — well, I'm going to say white, middle-class Americans — simply don't want to do. Thus, the negative stigma that it has. But really, you're not too much in competition for those jobs.

Sarah Biggs
Psychology senior from Amarillo
I would say, Yes, I do. I personally don't feel very well-versed on this issue, but I have an acquaintance who is here legally, but she's not currently a U.S. citizen, and so I think she knows more about this issue. And recently she made a post on Facebook, basically saying, "Yeah, I do support this." Or at least most of what [President Obama] is saying. So, in general, I do think it's a good idea to try to find a way to help these people become citizens if they want to be, and actually get them to pay taxes and stuff like that, so they're actually working with the system.

Jonathan Cha
Biochemistry sophomore from Dallas
I do kind of support the idea of how non-citizens could now ... become citizens. But I kind of find it a problem that with them increasing in number that they might take away a lot of job opportunities, actually.

Powers' contradictory vision

Snehal Shingavi
Guest Columnist

On Tuesday, Jan. 29, UT President William Powers Jr. presented a narrative, "Smarter Systems for a Greater UT," which sounds too good to be true. That's in large part because it is. The strategy developed for making the University work better and more efficiently while still retaining its excellence is what President Powers is calling "attrition," namely, allowing jobs to vanish when the people who did them leave their positions voluntarily. Powers' suggestion that we can rely on the random circumstances which cause people to retire or quit to determine how we will shape the future of the University. That might constitute a contradiction, certainly not a plan.

As the crowning example of how UT will move into the future, President Powers gave us this homily: "In 1586, the Pope decided that an obelisk at the Circus Maximus should be moved to the square in front of the new Saint Peter's Basilica." Really? The pope managed to move an obelisk? Several obelisks? (Could he have done this and carried out a rationalization of his workforce through a policy of attrition?) Are these really the contradictory and convoluted metaphors of innovation to which the University has been reduced?

You cannot have a strategic vision for a university based on attrition; Powers' proposals would be laughable if it weren't for the fact that the

University spent \$960,000 to develop its well-worked-out plan for saving money that amounts to, well, doing nothing and then charging more for it. This is strategic neglect masquerading as policy.

Two years ago, the Center for Asian American Studies, an already tiny center, was cut by 25 percent, despite the fact that my colleagues who work in the Center were exceeding expectations in terms of our "efficiency." Every metric that the University developed demonstrated at the time that the Center was actually performing well. That year we also lost a senior faculty member to another institution. The University did not approve using those savings to hire a replacement.

Last year, we also lost a full-time staff person who was then replaced by a part-time staff person, and two faculty members were denied tenure. This year, that part-time staff person will have to leave her job because it doesn't provide her with necessary dental coverage. The University, we have been informed, will not be refilling her position. This is attrition in real time and it means that the Center is at risk of disappearing all together.

The Center will be one more casualty that will prove to the University that its plan is working. There will be no discussion of the work that the faculty here do, the students they serve, the projects they work on, the communities outside the University to which they connect us. Will we even pause to ask what

is strategic or smart about this?

Attrition, as President Powers imagines it, amounts to taking excellence and then sapping it of all of its strength. It is only through the deployment of Orwellian rhetoric that passivity can present itself as ingenuity and intelligence. This is business orthodoxy pretending to be reform.

Let's I forget, here are the remaining bits of the plan Powers put forth: Charge more for things that people need like food and parking, and pay people less for the work they already do. Oh, and then there is also last year's decision to charge students more tuition. This is exactly what it means to run the University like a business, and no amount of papal sanctification can turn this water into wine. We've run out of creativity at the top and we are hoping for miracles.

The sad part is that this plan will work: There will be savings, there will be efficiencies. But it will also mean real, human casualties. Education will suffer, as will the services that students are offered. It will also be more expensive to be a Longhorn. Jobs will simply vanish into the ether. And we will make do with less. But the emphasis in that sentence has to be on the word "less" and not on the term "make do." And by the way, do you want an education in which "making do" is supposed to sound like "hallelujah?"

Shingavi is an assistant professor in the Department of English and the Center for Asian American Studies.

UT ready for more student veterans

Benjamin Armstrong
Guest Columnist

In an article published on Jan. 16, The Daily Texan reported that the University "will need to figure out how many student veterans there are" in order to track graduation rates among this population. The truth is that the University has information on every individual, past or present, who has made use of military educational benefits at UT.

It is widely believed that the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs sends employees to college campuses to assist student veterans and dependents with the transition to higher education. In reality, each university is responsible for providing that assistance to the student veterans. The Office of the Dean of Students officially launched Student Veteran Services (SVS) on Veterans Day in 2011 to address the needs of student veterans and dependents at the University. SVS has since worked closely with various administrative departments campus-wide to assist student veterans and dependents with accessing their education benefits and acclimating to student life. Both processes can be challenging.

SVS routinely collaborates with the Office of Admissions to identify incoming student veterans and dependents, and we continue to make improvements in tracking these students and collecting nationally relevant retention and completion data. SVS has also worked with New Student Services to develop orientation services specifically for student veterans. The vast majority of incoming student veterans transfer to UT-Austin from schools all over the country with widely varying transfer requirements. Partnering with admissions and orientation staff has allowed SVS to begin tracking each student veteran as soon as he or she accepts admission to the University. We have data on every student who has ever utilized veteran education benefits at UT-Austin, which benefits were used and when and whether or not the student using the benefit was a veteran or a dependent of a veteran. What we cannot track are student veterans who do not use benefits or do not self identify.

Though the Department of Veterans Affairs provides many benefits to student veterans and dependents, frequent case backlogs and understaffing can delay receipt or disbursement of funds. To solve this problem, Student Veteran Services, since registration period in the fall semester, has started working with Student Accounts Receivable to develop a shelter program to ensure that student veteran and dependent course registration is secured until state or federal educational benefits can be applied to outstanding tuition or fees.

The past four years have brought exponential growth in the number of student veterans and dependents using education benefits at UT. Student Veteran Services and the Office of the Registrar have worked to address the rapidly increasing workload and increase efficiency in the student veteran and dependent-benefits certification process. The Office of the Registrar has trained counselors to specialize in state and federal education benefit requests and certification, and has created new avenues for student veterans and dependents to submit or modify benefits claims. These remedies have streamlined the previously 4-6 week benefits certification process down to approximately 14 days.

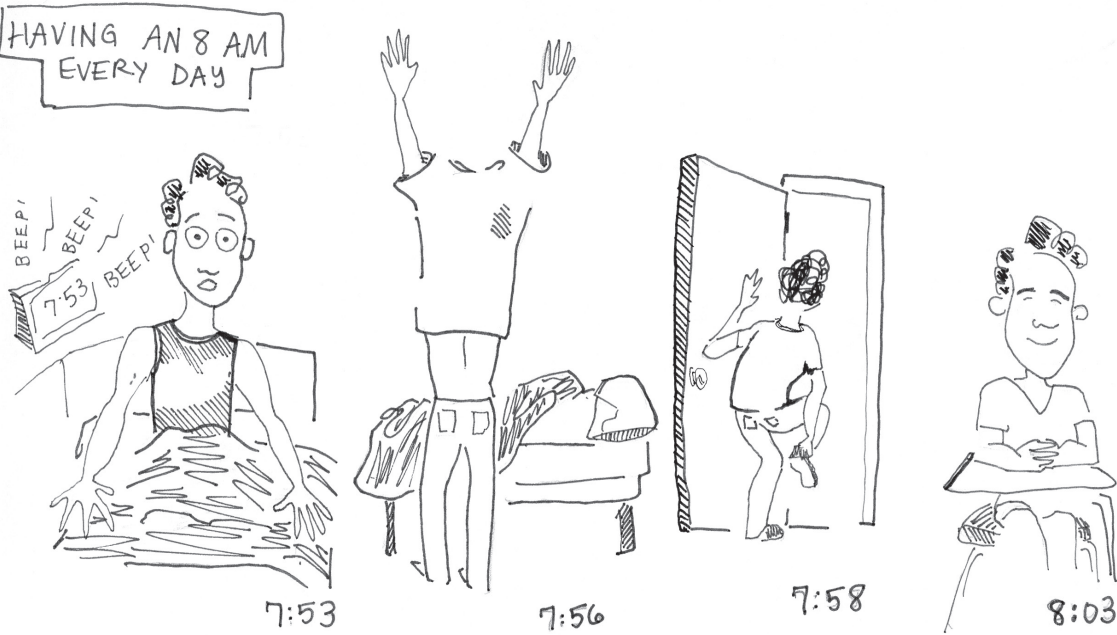
Together, Student Veteran Services, the Office of the Registrar, the Office of Admissions, Student Accounts Receivable and New Student Services are also making it easier for UT-Austin to track and collect relevant information about student veteran graduation rates. SVS is developing a plan to collect historical and current enrollment information in order to generate retention and graduation data regarding student veterans.

The article, "Gathering higher education data on student veterans proves difficult," quotes only student veterans. No attempt was made to interview University staff from any of the many departments that assist veterans and their dependents. Had any time been taken to gather information from a broad range of sources, the reporter would have discovered that the intricate network that exists campus-wide to support this population also keeps copious records. In short, the story would have been accurate.

Although there are issues that can create barriers to student success, our efforts to resolve them have been successful thanks to the dedication and diligence shown by the staff involved in serving student veterans and dependents. SVS is proud of the work that has been done to find solutions and improve the ways in which the university meets the needs of student veterans and dependents.

Armstrong is the Student Veteran Services Coordinator.

GALLERY



Lauren Moore | Daily Texan Cartoonist

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CAMPUS



Shelby Tauber | Daily Texan Staff

Marc Sosnowchik conducts the Austin Soundwaves Wind Ensemble at the CLUTCH special event concert in the Bates Recital Hall on Thursday evening.

Concert premieres young talent

By Lexie Dubinsky

Students of music, ranging from 5th graders to graduate students, performed together in a charity concert Thursday night.

UT's CLUTCH, Compositional Labors of the UT Composer's Hub, wind ensemble combined music with students from Austin Soundwaves at its second annual special event concert. With limited faculty involvement, CLUTCH, a student organization that performs concert series composed by undergraduate and graduate students, organized a 90-minute performance featuring a large wind symphony. Donations benefitted Austin Soundwaves, an El Sistema based youth music program in East Austin.

During the concert at Bates Recital Hall, a total of six composers in CLUTCH

presented an eclectic mix of genres, from simple melodies to repeated rhythms. Middle and high school students from Austin Soundwaves concluded the show with various instruments including flutes, trombones and percussions.

Formed by the Hispanic Alliance for the Performing Arts, Austin Soundwaves has a goal of engaging underserved students in grades five through nine in cultural and fine arts by providing them with free instruments and instruction.

"Usually kids studying classical music are taught to think of composers as these dead infallible masters," Yevgeniy Sharlat, professor and faculty overseer for CLUTCH, said. "So working alongside real flesh and blood, down-to-earth composers can make them aspire to write their own music."

Sharlat said he thinks bringing in Austin Soundwaves was

a terrific idea.

Ryan Hutchison, executive director for the alliance, said he has seen the vision of his organization come to light.

"[Austin Soundwaves] is seeding the future of our mission to bring cultural arts to every community in Austin," Hutchison said. "The students not only get the chance to play with other musicians, but they get to see the culmination of their efforts in front of an audience. We feel this is really going to bring about change."

Bobby Williams, a 12-year-old percussion player for Austin Soundwaves, expressed gratitude for CLUTCH and for the chance to play with them on stage.

"It's actually pretty fun," Williams said. "I like it a lot because I get to learn a lot of new stuff before I played here. I only imagined playing the instruments, but now I actually get to see it come alive."

CITY

Movie, panel address sustainability

By Mark Carrion

A documentary screened on campus Thursday night focused conversation on the history of the preservation of the Barton Creek area as a panel discussed the future of sustainable development in Austin.

The screening featured a movie called "The Unforeseen" and a live panel that included several prominent leaders representing viewpoints of the film, such as Terry Mitchell, a former developer; Brigid Shea, an environmental adviser; and David Sullivan, a city planning commissioner.

"The Unforeseen" follows the political battle between Austin residents and developers over plans which called for the development of 4,000 acres of land around the Barton Creek area. The film explores the theme of big business against local residents, interviewing and portraying in depth figures such as Gary

Bradley, the failed leader of the Barton Creek development plan, and former Texas Gov. Ann Richards.

The Center for Sustainable Development, a research center within UT's School of Architecture, hosted the event.

"Our aim was to appeal to a wide variety of audience members," said Rachel Tepper, the event coordinator for the Center. "[Students] might not know the political tension that protects Barton Springs but causes a lot of frustration."

Tepper also said it was important that people learn about the local policy in Austin and how it relates to the urban environment. She said even though Thursday night's environmental screening and panel are not part of an established series of events, she looks forward to hosting several panels at UT in the future.

As the film portrayed, after an intensive City Council meeting, the development plans were halted, although as

the panel discussed pollution Barton Springs still faces from more recent developments in suburbs outside of Austin.

Shea, a member of the panel, helped create the Save Our Springs Alliance, which helped protect Barton Springs against development. Shea was also instrumental in passing a ballot which established rigid water quality controls on developments around the Austin area. She said it was important for people to "see beyond the short term ... to take the actions necessary to preserve and protect."

Jessica Lee, an environmental science freshman who attended the panel, voiced her concern over the topic of conserving the environment.

"There's so much to learn about the environment and issues we are facing," Lee said. "Raising awareness is one of my top priorities."

After the screening there was a lively discussion between students and members of the panel.

POSTER

continues from page 1

Mexican American communities and how bilingualism is essential to excellence in the third millennium.

The committee is composed of UT students and prominent Mexican American figures in the Austin community. English senior Brissa Ochoa, who served on last year's committee, said while creativity is important, it is not all the judges consider.

"The image should represent the theme, but should also reflect characteristics particular to Mexican American culture," she said.

In reviewing posters that have won in the past Perez recognized a recurrent focus on famous Latinos. He instead opted to depict people

he knows personally.

"It's real easy to forget the community work — the grass roots," Perez said. "These are people I know who are proud of their language and their regional identity, and who make a difference."

In addition to his \$1,000 scholarship, Perez met and worked with visual artist Sam Coronado to produce 25 prints of his poster for the center.

"We've been working with CMAS every year for this competition," Coronado said. "This year's winner did some amazing work, and we're proud to play the part that we do."

Nicole Guidotti-Hernandez, associate professor of Mexican American Studies, said she was impressed by the students' ability to capture the importance of multilingualism visually.

"For a lot of us we have multiple languages in our lives and I think that is what's beautiful and brilliant about these posters," she said.

Second-place winner, Jessica Saldana, management information systems and studio art senior; and third-place winner, Marianna Anaya, ethnic studies and radio-television-film senior, will receive \$750 and \$300 scholarships, respectively, and each will be given a framed print of their work.

In creating her poster Saldana said she drew inspiration from Mayan civilization and its symbolic traditions.

"In Mayan mythology it says that the Sun God will consume the world," she said. "I thought it would be appropriate to use this image and ingestion through the mouth or the regurgitation of words to represent bilingualism."

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

DNA suggests Otomi assimilated

By Alberto Long

Based on colonial records, it was previously thought that the Otomi either left Xaltocan, or that they assimilated with the Aztecs, but new research is suggesting otherwise.

According to the research, genetics may show whether the Otomi, the original inhabitants of Xaltocan, the capital of a pre-Aztec city-state located 60 miles north of modern-day Mexico City, assimilated with the emerging Aztec empire or abandoned the city before its conquest by the Aztecs. Lisa Overholtzer, archeologist and professor of anthropology at Wichita State University in Kansas, said colonial historical records said the Otomi left Xaltocan and the Aztecs came after an Aztec ruler sent taxpayers to repopulate the state.

Following a series of excavations, Overholtzer said she noticed a remarkable continuity among the remains found at Xaltocan, roughly 60 miles north of Mexico City. She said burial sites were consistent, as were housing and trash sites.

There was no gap in carbon dating that would suggest a 40-year occupation or evidence that the Otomi left in a hurry, she said.

"So archaeologically, it didn't look like there was much of a transition going on in terms of the population," Overholtzer said. "That was when I contacted the DNA experts at UT-Austin."

Overholtzer said she contacted Deborah Bolnick, a UT assistant professor of anthropology, who put one of her graduate students, Jaime Mata-Miguez, in charge of the analysis.

After sampling mitochondrial DNA from the bodies unearthed at Xaltocan, Mata-Miguez found pre-conquest maternal DNA did not match that belonging to the post-conquest era. These results support the notion that the Aztec conquest of Xaltocan had a widespread genetic impact on the city, meaning that at least some Otomi remained in Xaltocan and intermarried with the Aztecs.

Although the study suggests imperialism may have altered some Xaltocan households, mitochondrial

DNA can only trace the population's history along maternal lines, and more analysis will be needed to understand the causes of the genetic shift.

"So far we have only analyzed mitochondrial DNA, which is a very small portion of our genome," Mata-Miguez said. "So in the future, we will analyze markers in other regions of the genome, and that will give us more information, a more complete picture about Xaltocan's population history during that period of time."

The overall impact of the genetic shift demonstrated by the mitochondrial DNA analysis remains unclear, but suggests a more realistic story than the one told by colonial records. Ultimately, more research will have to be done to better understand the effects of Aztec imperialism on Mesoamerican populations, Overholtzer said.

"The potential for this kind of study is great, and hopefully it will inspire some other studies to be done," Overholtzer said. "This suggests that these kinds of collaborations can be really fruitful."

OREN

continues from page 1

event and information on Palestine outside. "He represents a state that continually violates human rights and continually stomps on the throats of oppressed people," Guerinot said. "His presence here is a reflection of normalization of the relation between the U.S. and Israel."

Oren said the Israeli

government sees the Syrian Civil War as an opportunity to deal a blow to Iran.

"With the outbreak of hostilities in Syria, we had hoped that the regime would pass from the earth as soon as possible, but these groups proved to be more resilient than initially predicted," Oren said.

He said Israel's greatest accomplishment is its system of democracy, although it's not perfect.

"We can do lots of things better. Israel is a work in



Michael Oren

Israeli ambassador

progress," Oren said. "Our goal is to better democracy, full equality for all of our citizens and peace with our neighbors."

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Big man on campus



Elisabeth Dillon | Daily Texan Staff

Freshman center Cameron Ridley stepped on campus as a highly-touted basketball star. He's made huge strides while adapting to the collegiate level, shedding nearly 30 pounds while leading the team with 1.8 blocks per game and averaging 5.3 rebounds per game.

Ridley sheds pounds, emerges as an inside force for surging Longhorns

By Nick Cremona

At 6 feet 9 inches tall and an hors d'oeuvre shy of 300 pounds, freshman center Cameron Ridley began his collegiate career as perhaps the biggest man on the Texas campus.

But as Texas' losses have piled up this season, so have the pounds shed by Ridley. Stringent workout sessions, healthier eating and commitment on Ridley's part have all contributed to the effort, and his progress hasn't gone unnoticed.

"I think he's down to 274 pounds," head coach Rick Barnes said. "Which is a long way from where he started."

Ridley's weight loss has been the Longhorns' gain as he has averaged five points and about five rebounds in 15 starts this year. He has had at least one rebound in each of the Longhorns' 20 games and leads the team in blocks with 36. His blocks per game have decreased as the season has worn on, but he's still active defensively and is becoming more comfortable playing against quicker and more experienced post players.

"Coach Barnes really stressed about when my man runs the pipe to get back on D," Ridley said.

Ridley started Texas' last game against Kansas State with a bang, slamming home a dunk on a pass from Sheldon McClellan in the game's first few minutes. Things eventually went south for the Longhorns and Ridley finished with just one basket and two rebounds in 11 minutes against the Wildcats.

However, just as Texas has shown promise in a handful of moments throughout the year, so has Ridley. His best performance came in the EA Sports Maui Invitational against Mississippi State when he scored eight points,

grabbed a season-high 12 rebounds and blocked five shots. He's scored in double digits twice — against Georgetown and UCLA in consecutive games — but has struggled at times to stay on the court. Against the Hoyas and Bruins, Ridley logged 65 minutes and was a combined 9-of-14 shooting from the field.

When he stays out of foul trouble and is engaged in the offense Ridley is a force to be reckoned with.

"He's worked all year," Barnes said. "He's worked on getting his weight down. He's done a much better job with his balance, which is a big reason why he hadn't been able to finish some of those

Texas @ TCU



Date: Saturday
Time: 7 p.m.
On air: LHN

shots. I'm happy for him."

After being run out of Manhattan, Kan., on Wednesday, the Longhorns (9-11, 1-6) now face the one team that has fared worse in the Big 12 this season, TCU (9-11, 0-7). Texas has defended its home court well, winning seven of its nine games at the Erwin Center and is up against a Horned Frogs team

RIDLEY continues on page 7

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



Shelby Tauber | Daily Texan Staff

Freshman Celina Rodrigo controls the ball in Texas' win against Kansas State on Jan. 26. Rodrigo has logged a lot of minutes as of late, playing a career-high 33 minutes against the Wildcats.

Horns ride big win into TCU

By Matt Warden

In the powerhouse Big 12 conference, momentum is everything. The Longhorns have it.

Texas (8-11, 1-7 Big 12) is proudly coming off its first conference win of the season after its 59-40 thrashing of Kansas State. With everything clicking, Texas will look to keep building in its first matchup with TCU (7-12, 0-8 Big 12) since 1996.

"We played as a team, we shared the ball really well, team defense was terrific," head coach Karen Aston said. "There were obviously some really great individual performances, but overall it was a really great team effort."

Despite their tough start to the conference season, the Longhorn women have

been consistently good on the glass, outrebounding 14 of their 19 opponents. In their last outing, the team showed that when they dominate the post, they will likely emerge victorious.

"I thought they were terrific from the very get-go. Establishing themselves in the paint," Aston said. "They worked harder, longer. They have had games where they worked hard and have done some good things, but this time it was a complete game."

The Longhorns have also played solid defense all season long, with most of their losses being razor-thin margins. After holding the Wildcats to 24.1 percent shooting, the women are confident that they'll be able to shut down the Horned Frogs as well.

"We made some mistakes,

Texas @ TCU



Date: Saturday
Time: 11:30 a.m.
On air: FSN

but didn't take any plays off," Aston said. "We were really aware on defense."

Sophomore Nneka Enemkpali re-established herself as a force to be reckoned with after posting 20 points and 16 rebounds against the Wildcats. Her relentlessness on the boards is almost unparalleled in the Big 12, which should keep the Longhorns in control if she remains consistent.

"I just had a lot of built up excitement and was

FROGS continues on page 7

BASEBALL

Texas to face former stars in annual Alumni Game

By Peter Sblendorio

In a final tune-up before the start of the regular season, the Longhorns baseball team will take the field Saturday against former Texas stars in the annual Alumni Game.

Major league starters Drew Stubbs and Brandon Belt are headlining the list of former Longhorns expected to attend. Taylor Teagarden, Jordan Danks and Taylor Jungmann are also expected to take part in the game.

The game is scheduled to start at 2 p.m. at UFCU Disch-Falk Field, but the fun for fans will begin even earlier. Texas will also host Fan Appreciation Day on Saturday, and a number of events have been planned for ticket holders before the game.

Gates will open at 11:30 a.m., when fans will have the opportunity to attend an autograph session featuring members of the 2013 roster. Fans in attendance will also have the chance

ALUMNI GAME



Date: Saturday
Time: 2 p.m.
On air: LHN

to take a picture with Bevo and play catch in the outfield before the game, and free hot dogs and sodas will be available on a first come, first served basis.

Junior pitcher Nathan Thornhill said he is looking forward to hosting the Alumni Game, as he believes it is a fun event for the fans and a good way to bring in the new season.

"It's a good time to see the fans and see how much you mean to the community around here," Thornhill said. "It's always great to see your teammates and ex-legends. It's fun to see those guys that have gone on to pro ball and had successful careers that come

ALUMNI continues on page 7




Andrew Edmonson | Daily Texan file photo


Junior Nathan Thornhill is one of Texas' most experienced pitchers. He went 4-5 with a 3.87 ERA in 11 starts last year.

SIDELINE

NBA




GRIZZLIES
89




THUNDER
106


NCAAB




ILLINOIS
75




MICH. STATE
80




(9) BUTLER
58



SAINT LOUIS
75



(8) ARIZONA
57



WASHINGTON
53

SPORTS BRIEFLY

Texas native dies in X-Games crash

Caleb Moore was an up-and-coming freestyle snowmobile rider known for his innovative style. After being injured in a crash at the Winter X Games in Colorado on January 24, he died early Thursday morning at the age of 25.

The injury occurred when Moore was attempting a backflip in the freestyle event in Aspen when the skis on his snowmobile caught the lip of the landing area, sending him flying over the handlebars and landing face first in the snow. It has been confirmed that Moore suffered from bleeding around his heart and a complication involving his brain.

He was born and raised in Krum, Texas, a town of about 5,000 people that rarely sees snow. He honed his skills by launching his sled into a foam pit. It only took a brief training run in Michigan before he was ready for the 2010 Winter X Games.

He won four Winter X Games medals in his career, including a bronze last season when his younger brother, Colten, captured gold.

Knebel named to All-America team

Junior pitcher Corey Knebel was named to the 2013 Baseball America All-America second team on Thursday. The Georgetown native posted a 4-5 record and a 2.08 ERA with nine saves last year. In 73 2/3 innings, he allowed 50 hits and 17 earned runs on 20 walks, while compiling 68 strikeouts.

Knebel currently has 28 career saves and needs only 13 to tie the UT career mark of 41 set by current major league closer Huston Street in 2005. He tied the school single-season record for saves (19) in his freshman season as he was named Freshman Pitcher of the Year by Louisville Slugger/Collegiate Baseball.

— Matt Warden

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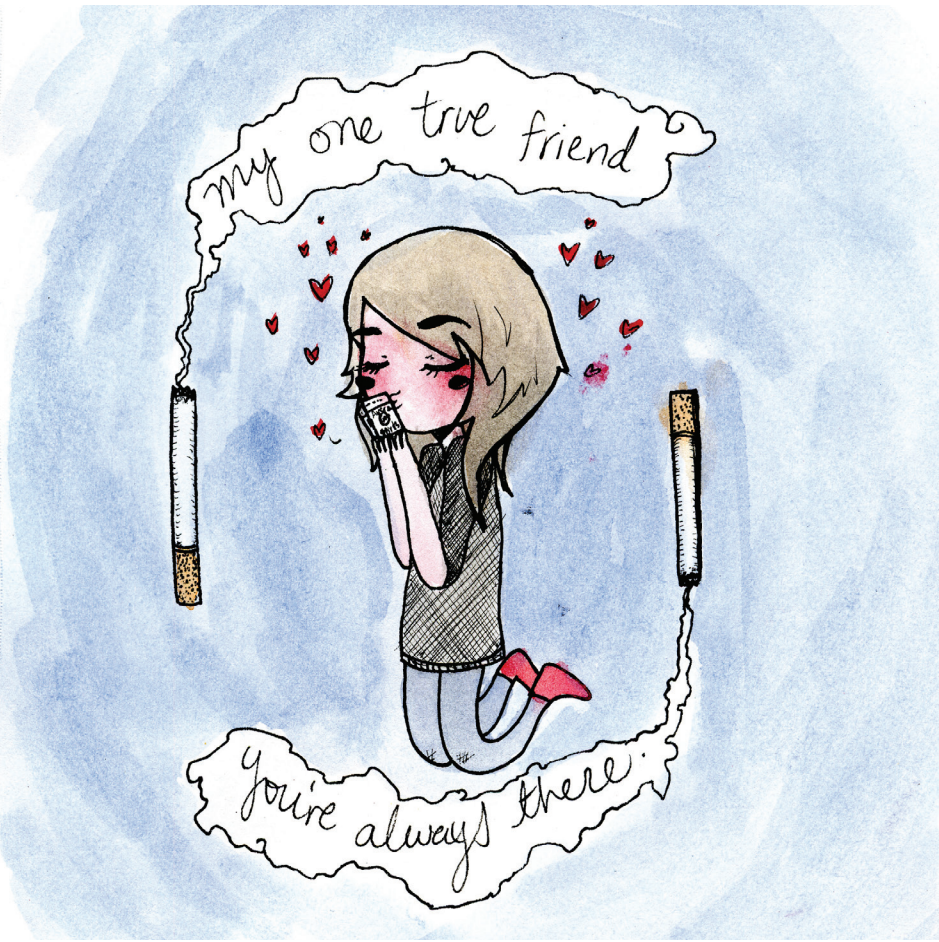
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CAROL, IF YOU COULD GET THE LIGHTS?

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+
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=
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The Quiz

Before

Are you ready for the quiz?

Yea! he said it is going to be like this homework problem. It's really simple!

You have 15 minutes.

Quiz #01

Y'a know, college is kinda hard.

Quiz #54

Find the reaction forces at point A and B. The wheel is placed on an inclined plane with angle θ . There are two forces connected at point A. The pulley is fixed to the wall. The weight of the system is 150 lb. The reaction forces at A and B are:

Fuck.

SNAKE OIL #1

THE TRAINS A COMIN BOYS!

MY HEART IS ON FIRE!!!

LT. TAREK, CHIEF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

VICE ADMIRAL ALESJAR, 18TH FLEET

CHIEF SPECIALIST MIRESIK, CHIEF SCIENCE OFFICER

SPECIALIST UKOZRI, SYSTEMS ENGINEER

WE ARE WITHIN 8 KM OF THE FREIGHTERS. NOW SLOWING TO 1/4-SUB-LIGHT SPEED.

PRIMARY DEFLECTOR IS CHARGED; AUXILIARY SYSTEMS AT FULL POWER!

PREPARING DEFLECTOR FOR MAIN DISCHARGE. SECONDARY GRAVITON EMITTERS CHAINED TO RESONANCE AMPLIFICATION MODE.

JUST AS I EXPECTED. VERY WELL THEN -

LET 'EM HAVE IT. FIRE!

AYE, FIRING!

AAAAAND THEY'RE NOT RESPONDING TO HAILS, ALESTAR.

NICE TRY, CHET! YOU STILL CAN'T FOOL ME.

POKE!

EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

ASTEA

BY ANIK

LT. TAREK, CHIEF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

VICE ADMIRAL ALESJAR, 18TH FLEET

CHIEF SPECIALIST MIRESIK, CHIEF SCIENCE OFFICER

SPECIALIST UKOZRI, SYSTEMS ENGINEER

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LET 'EM HAVE IT. FIRE!

AYE, FIRING!

AAAAAND THEY'RE NOT RESPONDING TO HAILS, ALESTAR.

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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No.1228

ACROSS

1 Opinion add-on

10 It can go from liquid to frozen

15 Taqueria treat

16 Critter with humanlike fingerprints

17 Natalie Portman's birthplace

18 It gets a chick's attention

19 Where R.F.K. and his brother Teddy went to law school

20 10/15, e.g.

22 Really long

23 Trendsetting

27 Steps on a scale

29 Intertangle

30 Sabre ou pistolet

31 Square for a roll

32 With 46-Down, a bit below so-so

33 Flipping out

35 Opening pitch

38 Many an ascot wearer

39 It's a gas

40 One coming from Mars?

42 Apt rhyme for 26-Down

43 Letters for a princess

44 Cry that's often sung

45 Complimentary

49 Unworldliness

51 Flimflam

52 "... can't get up!"

53 "A failure of imagination," per Graham Greene

55 Part of 10/15: Abbr.

56 Factor in a beauty contest

58 Wowed basketball announcer's cry

DOWN

1 Dull

2 Like bars that are often near horses

3 Impenetrable script

4 Night to watch "The Office": Abbr.

5 Family moniker

6 Like

7 Clinton, Bush or Cheney

8 Like many perps in lineups

9 Try to impress by association

10 Dog show org.

11 Like panels on some racecars

12 It's handled on the range

13 Tightwad

14 Chills briefly

21 Pro beginner?

24 Dropped off

25 Assistant

26 Cur curer

28 Most Atari-playing kids

30 Ancient meeting place

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

POPS ATEIT KISS
SNOW VOLVO IRAQ
HALF NELSON SEAU
AHL ENDER AMARE
WOODCUT AMELIE
PIECE OF WRITING
LOQ RAID ZEE
ASHE POX NENE
SPA BROZ PSY
PARTIAL ECLIPSE
IM DONE HANDAXE
RACKS BOOYA FAA
ALOE SEMIFINALS
TORN CISCO ORLY
ETES INKER HIYA

Puzzle by ASHTON ANDERSON

34 Intimate

35 Brandy alternative

36 Theme of "The Tell-Tale Heart"

37 Holed up

38 Hard-to-block jumper, in hoops

41 Smallish room

42 Grp. interested in long drives

46 See 32-Across

47 Form 1040 info

48 Certain volleyball player

50 Prospect

51 Quaker makers?

54 Quaker pronoun

57 Long time

59 Twain boy

60 Listerine bottle abbr.

61 Educ. higher-ups?

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Icelandic girl granted right to use given name

By Gudjob Helgason
Associated Press

REYKJAVIK, Iceland — A 15-year-old Icelandic girl has been granted the right to legally use the name given to her by her mother, despite the opposition of authorities and Iceland’s strict law on names.

Reykjavik District Court ruled Thursday that the name “Blaer” can be used. It means “light breeze.”

The decision overturns an earlier rejection by Icelandic authorities who declared it was not a proper feminine name. Until now, Blaer Bjarkardottir had been identified simply as “Girl” in communications with officials.

“I’m very happy,” she said after the ruling. “I’m glad this is over. Now I expect I’ll have to get new identity papers. Finally I’ll have the name Blaer in my passport.”

Like a handful of other countries, including Germany and Denmark, Iceland has official rules about what a baby can be named. Names are supposed to fit Icelandic grammar and pronunciation rules.

Blaer’s mother, Bjork Eidsdottir, had fought for the right for the name to be



Anna Andersen | Associated Press

In this Dec. 30, 2012 file photo Blaer Bjarkardottir, left, and her mother, Bjork Eidsdottir, are photographed in front of a pond in Reykjavik.

recognized. The court ruling means that other girls will also be allowed to use the name in Iceland.

In an interview earlier this year, Eidsdottir said she did not know the name “Blaer” was not on the list of accepted female names when she gave it to her daughter. The name was rejected because the panel viewed it as a masculine name that was inappropriate for a girl.

The court found that based on testimony and other evidence, the name could be used by both males and females and that Blaer had a right to her own name under Iceland’s constitution and Europe’s human rights conventions.

Blaer had told the court she was very happy with her name and only had problems with it when she was dealing with state authorities who rejected it.

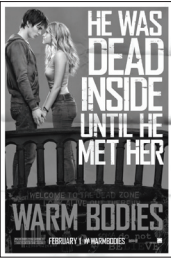
The court did not grant her any damages. The government has not indicated whether it will appeal the decision to the Supreme Court.

ZOMBIE

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and rising to the challenge admirably. Supporters John Malkovich, Analeigh Tipton and Rob Corddry all bring necessary contrast, conflict and comedy to their roles, and Tipton in particular shines as a normal teenage girl doing her best to be supportive of her best friend’s unconventional romantic pursuits.

“Warm Bodies” is more or less the perfect February film, a lightly romantic take on “Romeo and Juliet” with enough window dressing to satisfy zombie enthusiasts. While its PG-13 rating is a hindrance, it does not take away from the plentiful charm and creativity to be found in Jonathan Levine’s unconventional take on the zombie mythos.



WARM BODIES
Director: Jonathan Levine
Genre: Romantic horror-comedy
Runtime: 97 minutes



Photo Courtesy of Chuck Zlotnick

Colin Farrell plays a struggling screenwriter in “Seven Psychopaths.” He is shown here with Sam Rockwell.

PSYCHO

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knows when to show and hide things, immersing the audience into the characters’ world effectively. Despite the clever dialogue, there are moments in which “Seven Psychopaths” itself is not clever enough, mainly because it emphasizes giving a ride more than anything else. Yes, it is a noticeable flaw, but then again “Seven Psychopaths” might just become a modern cult hit.

“Seven Psychopaths” is one of the most feel-good films of 2012. With an opening scene in which two violent mob individuals are shot point-blank, McDonagh’s new film confidently tells the audience what kind of tone to expect: odd and bizarre, yet refreshing and highly entertaining. As for the acting department, McDonagh boldly hands the reins over to top-notch actors that everyone loves. Add in over-the-top violence, devious dialogue and a crafty subtlety of comedy, and the result is an explosively rewarding treat from a film that does justice to its title.

BBQ

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Delicious German potatoes with bacon and caramelized onions stand in for potato salad, and of-fal beans, cooked with sausage and beef heart, take the place of standard baked beans. Vegetarians needn’t feel left out: The smoked beets are enough to turn even a devout carnivore into a veggie lover. The herbed chevre pairs nicely with the earthy beets, and is topped with a tart balsamic glaze, creating an intense combination of flavors.

The smoked banana pudding is served in an almost offensively small mason jar, but one bite proves that a little goes a long way. Exceptionally sweet and rich, it is almost too heavy to top off the hearty barbecue dinner. Splitting it with someone is a must.

Only time will tell if Freedmen’s can carve out a niche in a neighborhood densely populated by college students who likely don’t have a lot of disposable income. However, for those looking to experience finer tastes without venturing too far from home, Freedmen’s provides an opportunity to try new flavors in a relatively casual setting.

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FOOD

Diamond in the rough

Freedmen’s restaurant opens doors, brings touch of class to West Campus

By Alexandra Hart

An establishment must have a certain amount of self-respect to set up shop in a historic landmark, particularly the Franzetti Store, a piece of real estate dating back to 1869. Newly opened barbecue restaurant and bar Freedmen’s has that self-respect, and a name paying tribute to the building’s history as a centerpiece of Wheatville, a community many of the University area’s freed slaves called home.

Perhaps it is easier to start off with what Freedmen’s is not. It is not your Rudy’s or Bill Miller sort of barbecue joint. It is not part of the culturally bland restaurant/bar scene that prevails among its neighbors in West Campus (I’m looking at you, Cain & Abel’s), which specifically caters to that “college experience” ideology. In fact, as a more upscale dining experience, Freedmen’s seems out of place in the middle of a neighborhood of frat houses, high-density apartment complexes and loud college students.

What Freedman’s is, is an oasis in the midst of

West Campus. The restaurant itself is tiny. The few tables indoors have rich, black leather cushions and candles as centerpieces. A large fixture over the bar area provides most of the light in the dining area, bathing the tables in a warm golden glow.

The cocktail menu includes selections created by Freedmen’s mixologists. Prices are conveniently excluded. The gin-based Lavender Collins tastes like what perfume ought to taste like; light and floral, with no particular taste too overwhelming. The restaurant’s take on the Bloody Mary, the Bloody Swine, uses a combination of bacon, whiskey and citrus flavors, and is somehow simultaneously savory and sweet. But it works.

Executive chef and pitmaster Evan LeRoy knows how to do his job. While “melt in your mouth” is too often used to describe good barbecue, LeRoy’s pork belly is so flavorful and tender it is like a hybrid of meat and a stick of butter. The seemingly innocent pork ribs are only decent, until a surprising spicy aftertaste kicks in and lingers for a while. The slightly dry brisket finds redemption



FREEDMEN’S

Hours: 5 p.m. to midnight
Price range: \$10-\$20
Website: facebook.com/freedmens

in the addition of house barbecue sauce.

The plates are served with sweet, yet slightly spicy pickled vegetables, all presented unpretentiously on tin trays lined with brown parchment and a roll of paper towels on the table to wipe up with: a charming recognition of how barbecue is supposed to be served.

Side dish offerings are upgraded from standard barbecue joint fare.



Chelsea Purgahn | Daily Texan Staff

(Top) Diners enjoy the restaurant and bar at Freedmen’s on Thursday evening. Freedmen’s is a new upscale barbecue restaurant and bar in West Campus that operates in a historic landmark dating back to 1869. (Bottom) Freedmen’s serves a variety of barbecue entrees including the Holy Trinity Plate, which consists of brisket, pork ribs and sausage.

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MOVIE REVIEW | ‘WARM BODIES’



Photo courtesy of Jonathan Wenk of Summit Entertainment

The romance between R (Nicholas Hoult, left) and Julie (Teresa Palmer, right) makes for a creative twist on the zombie genre.

Film breathes life into undead characters

By Alex Williams

Zombies are perhaps the best of the great monsters of horror cinema. There is just something about a shambling mass of brain-starved monsters that lends itself to great entertainment value in all form of media. “Warm Bodies,” the new film from director Jonathan Levine, is commendable for doing something that no zombie film has done before — trying to imbue the undead with personalities, and mostly succeeding.

Nicholas Hoult stars as R, a zombie wracked with guilt at his flesh-eating nature. He shambles around an airport, eager to connect with anyone — living or dead. After a particularly gross, and creative, turn of events, R winds up falling for and sheltering Julie (Teresa Palmer), one of the only humans left on

Earth. As R tries to get Julie back to her compound safely, she wonders how she’ll reconcile falling in love with an increasingly animated zombie with her vengeful father (John Malkovich).

In his last film, “50/50,” Jonathan Levine navigated tricky ground, switching between gut-busting laughs and heartrending emotion with grace, and he continues to skillfully walk the tonal tightrope. “Warm Bodies” lives and dies based on the strength of its central concept, and in the wrong director’s hands, the idea of the walking dead being a pushed back to the side of the living by true love could have ended up unspeakably goofy or sappy. However, Levine manages to make the film’s central romance undeniably sweet, and there are moments of genuine

optimism and beauty to be found in “Warm Bodies.”

The film bursts with creativity and goes for each of its major overtures so earnestly that even when it stumbles, you are inclined to cut it a break. “Warm Bodies” manages to pack in jabs at modern society, one of the most disgusting meet-cutes ever put on film and convincing zombie-on-zombie violence, a rare treat in the genre.

However, the movie’s PG-13 rating makes it impossible for the viewer to be fully satisfied. The film’s bloodshed is mostly offscreen, and besides a few scenes of R scooping unrealistic brains into his mouth, it’s largely toothless. This extends all the way to the film’s villains, CGI zombies who have peeled off their skin, and humanity. While the “bonies,” as R calls them,

are threatening in design and good for a few jump scares, they’re ultimately faceless, ineffective villains that fail to instill any real stakes in the film’s inevitable final battle.

Nicholas Hoult has been bouncing around supporting roles for the last decade, starred in two seasons of BBC’s “Skins” and he’s finally gotten to a place where he can carry an entire film on his shoulders. Hoult plays dead convincingly, but as he slowly brings more and more life and humanity into his performance, it becomes clear what a skilled, likable performer he has become.

Teresa Palmer may have the more difficult role, asked to build chemistry with a creature that should by all accounts revolt her,

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MOVIE REVIEW | ‘SEVEN PSYCHOPATHS’

‘Psychopaths’ delivers bizarre, fresh narrative

By Kevin Lee

“Seven Psychopaths” is exactly what you would expect out of a film with this kind of title. Martin McDonagh directs and writes this bold new black comedy with sharp dialogue and gritty violence. Yet at the end of the day, “Seven Psychopaths” is more refreshing than similar work by Tarantino or perhaps the Coen Brothers.

“Seven Psychopaths” revolves around Marty (Colin Farrell), a struggling writer who is desperately trying to finish his screenplay, also titled “Seven Psychopaths.” As its narrative progresses, so does the number of times it flirts with cinematic commentary. At this point, he only has the title and is in the middle of listing out who the seven psychopaths are.

In response, his best friend Billy (Sam Rockwell) helps him by placing an ad in a newspaper to attract potential characters for Marty’s script. Oh, and Billy is a dog kidnapper who just happened to steal a dog from Charlie (Woody Harrelson), a violent gangster head. What happens next is a psychotic yet consistently entertaining ride.

Unlike plot-based films, “Seven Psychopaths” prioritizes bizarre characters over story. As a result, the main component that shines through is the cast. Farrell gives his most oddly organic performance yet, coming forth as a flawed man, a man with a drinking problem that he never recognizes as a problem and a man with too thin an attention span to work on his script. Christopher Walken, who portrays

Despite the clever dialogue, there are moments in which “Seven Psychopaths” itself is not clever enough, mainly because it emphasizes giving a ride more than anything else.



SEVEN PSYCHOPATHS

Director: Martin McDonagh
Genre: Crime/Comedy
Runtime: 110 minutes

Billy’s co-worker in dog kidnapping, constantly chuckles at himself while maintaining a fresh presentation, and each of the film’s psychopaths is merely a puzzle piece that forms one big picture.

Although “Seven Psychopaths” constantly pokes fun at its own substance, it still knows that it is indeed a film. McDonagh triumphs from big technical components like pacing and editing to the smallest details like simple camerawork in a scene. Making the camera itself become a character, McDonagh

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